



This Sunday, Jesus tells a short, uncomfortable story. A father asks two sons to go work in the vineyard. One says no, but later goes. The other says yes, but never shows up. It is a parable so simple, we almost miss how sharp it is. Jesus is clear about who it is for. This is not aimed at pagans or outsiders. It is aimed squarely at religious people, people who know the right words and sound obedient. Jesus is not condemning unbelief so much as disobedience. The polite hypocrisy that says the right things while quietly resisting the Father's will. St. John Chrysostom put it bluntly, "Not words, but deeds, are what God requires. Nothing so exasperates Him as insincere obedience, while nothing so delights Him as repentance." Every disciple must face that mirror. Do I publicly profess faith in Christ while privately resisting what He asks of me? It is easy to say, I believe in God in my heart. But if faith never becomes action, it slowly becomes an illusion. Jesus does not expose hypocrisy to shame us. He reveals it to heal us. He wants our hearts and our deeds to speak the same word, to let our yes truly mean yes. Like the second son who initially refused but afterwards changed his mind and went, Jesus invites us to step into the Father's will, however late, however imperfectly.

Challenge: Where are your public faith and private obedience divided? Where do you say, I will go, but never enter the vineyard? Go, get to work, even if it is late. The Father's vineyard is still open. — Fr. John Muir

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR OCT 3 & 4 2026

Sat. Oct. 3 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas

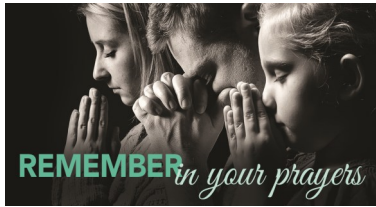
Reader: Karen Kalous
Music: Barb Zaloga & Colleen Lozier
Euch. Min.: Marce & Brenda Tebbe
Server: Pat Kalous

Sun. Oct. 4 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude

Reader: Debby Schwarz
Music: Nick Worman & Randy Eckstein
Sacristan: Wendy Essenpreis
Euch.Min.: Sue Messerli, Carole Sauls & Judi Rode
Ushers: Terry Dickman & Kevin Schwarz
Servers: Morgan & Cooper Dressler

Sun. Oct. 4 @10:00AM @ IC

Reader: Lowell Wellen
Music: Madi Crawford
Servers: Emma Winte & Jack Williamson
Euch. Min.: John Dea, Cindy Knebel & Evelyn Knebel



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day, and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. John Alberternst, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Teresa Dickman, Garland Edwards, Jean Fields, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Karen Grabowski, John Grubb, Eugene Henson, P.J. Hereford, James Hodge, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Barrett Korte, Denny Korte, Gerry Korte, Randy Korte, Steve Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Luber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Suzanne Steinbring, Brenda Usher, Rich Weis, Ginny Werner, Dean Wernle, Melanie Wernle, Paige Wernle.

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:

Delmar Knebel, Harold Schwarz, Barbara Weiss, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Ensign Eli Jones, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerriett Mettler, Jimmy O'Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Schuster, Joseph Schatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.

If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.

Readings for the Week of September 27, 2026

Sunday

Ex 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Monday

Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Wednesday

Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday

Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-12

Friday

Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Saturday

Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24

Next Sunday

Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9 and 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

"Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves..."
"Philippians 2:3"

Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put in our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life: your family, your friends and those who make you angry.



The owner of the vineyard gave both his sons the same opportunity. Only one took it, even though he had rejected it at first. Always remember: it is never too late to do the will of God. He waits for you.



"The priesthood is the love of the Heart of Jesus."

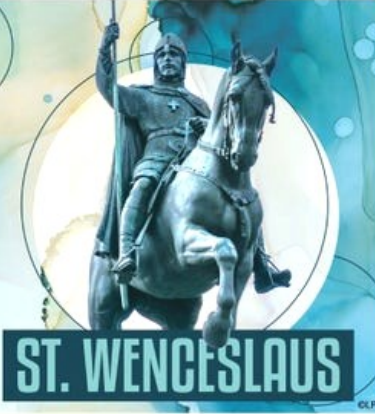
"The world looks to the priest because it looks to Jesus."

"The priest is not for himself — he is for you. He is for the Church."

"Every saintly priest promotes the growth of the Church"

"The priest is called to be a living image of Jesus Christ, the eternal High Priest."

Happy Priesthood Sunday Fr. Call!



Observances for the Week of September 27, 2026

Sunday

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday

Monday

St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs

Tuesday

Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Wednesday

St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Thursday

St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Friday

The Holy Guardian Angels

Next Sunday

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday

SAVE THE DATE: St. Jerome Parish, Troy, is hosting the next Alton Deanery Council of Catholic Women on Fri., Oct. 16th @ 9:30 a.m. Prayers, refreshments, guest speaker, & fellowship will be shared. We will be requesting RSVP's soon. RSVP'S assist the host parish with setup as well as refreshments. Deanery suggests of \$5 per person donation to assist with expenses. Guest speaker, Clyde Nossner, "Finding God in Adversity" will inform us of a mission project "Feeding Body and Soul" that he currently is involved in with the homeless. Please consider assisting with this project with the following list of donations: protein bars, powdered drink mixes for individual bottles of water, packages of wipes, non refrigerated drinks, \$10 McDonald's gift cards or a monetary donation. Please watch the bulletins for additional information Looking forward to sharing the morning with YOU!
Sue Schwegel, ADCCW Pres 618-304-2916

IC Collection	9/20/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,935.00
Church in Africa	\$263.00
Building Fund	\$90.00
Candles	\$129.00
Budget Goal	\$2,920.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$985.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$35,040.00
Support Actual	\$30,264.59
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$4,775.41



Our seminarians recently gathered at the Villa Maria Conference Center in Springfield with Father Zach Samples (Vocations Director) and Bishop Thomas John Paprocki.

No PSR This Wednesday, September 30th due to the Highland Homecoming Parade



FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Marie (Daiber) Weis**, mother of **Wayne (Cindy) Weis**, for **Bob Rapp** and for **Ed (Trobey) Gagen** of our parish family. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Marie's, Bob's and Ed's family and friends.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord...

STG Collection	9/19/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$510.00
Church in Africa	\$70.00
Budget Goal	\$1,276.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$666.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$15,312.00
Support Actual	\$15,909.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$597.00

STG Collection	9/20/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$334.00
Maintenance Fund	\$220.00
Budget Goal	\$1,524.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	-\$1,190.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$18,288.00
Support Actual	\$14,962.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	-\$3,326.00



† Mass Intentions †

No Mass

† All Souls

Mass of Thanksgiving —Int. of Gerry Korte

† Robin Pollmann —Int. of Colleen Lozier

† Lyle Edgar —Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey

† Joetta Korte —Int. of Jeannie Korte & Family

† Lucille, Vincent & Richard Schwarz — Int. of the Betty Rutz Family

For the People of St. Gertrude, St. Nicholas & Immaculate Conception

† George & Bernice Wellen —Int. of the Wellen Family

† Harold Meskil — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey

Mon.	(Sept.28)	8:00am	(IC)
Tues.	(Sept.29)	8:00am	(St.G)
Wed.	(Sept.30)	8:00am	(IC)
Thur.	(Oct 1)	8:00am	(St.N)
Fri.	(Oct. 2)	8:00am	(IC)
Sat.	(Oct. 3)	4:30pm	(St.N)
Sun.	(Oct. 4)	8:00am	(St.G)

Sun.	(Oct. 4)	10:00am	(IC)
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PAPAYA successfully hosted its first annual kickball tournament at PIC Park. Local youth teamed up with players from across the community making the inaugural event an exciting and memorable day for everyone involved.

Thanks To Kay Williamson for putting this tournament on!!



From September 23 to November 1, we are uniting with many others for another major simultaneous pro-life mobilization – the 40 Days for Life campaign. The mission of 40 Days for Life is to bring together the Body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 day campaign of prayer, fasting and peaceful activism, with the purpose of repentance, to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion. We (Immaculate Conception, St. Gertrude & St. Nicholas parishes) chose to Adopt a Day in the 40 Days for Life Granite City campaign to end the demand for abortion. We were assigned Sunday, **September 27th** as our adopted day, and we need many prayer warriors to join us in this important mission. We will need prayer warriors to pray with us at the facility in Granite City, and we need some praying from work, home, etc. too. In order to sign up for an hour or two of prayer on Sept. 27, 2026, please call or text Denise Trickey at 618-358-3954. 40 Days for Life works because prayer works! Thank you for standing up for life!

October HACSM Pantry Needs:
Granola Bars & Tuna Helper

St. Teresa Church, Marydale
DRIVE-THRU Chicken Dinner
Sunday, September 27, 2026
Serving 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
\$15.00 per Meal
Packaged meal includes: ½ Fried Chicken (4 pieces), Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Slaw
Handmade Quilt Raffle
Located 6 miles north of Carlyle on Route 127—Follow the signs
(Follow us on Facebook @MarydaleStTeresa)

Evangelical UCC —Highland
Annual Sausage Supper; Drive-Thru Only,
Saturday, October 3rd Noon to 7PM
2520 Poplar St.

Meal includes: Sausage (1lb), sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, and dessert. \$15/Dinner Cash, check or credit accepted. For questions call 618-654-7459.

Mother of Perpetual Help
Sunday, October 4th
11:30-5:00
200 North Lange in Maryville

All-You-Can-Eat Chicken Dinner

Serving fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, dressing, apple sauce, green beans, sauerkraut slaw, dessert and a beverage.

\$15 for adults, \$7 for children ages 6-13, children 5 and under are free. Dine-in or carry-out.

Quilt Raffle
50/50 Drawing

Free Flu Shots at Alhambra Firemen Hall (610 W. Main) on October 12th; 3 to 6pm Free for Alhambra township and village residents; no registration required. Mobile flu shots available for disabled residents. Call 618-830-1384 to schedule.

5 YEARS OF MAKING AN IMPACT

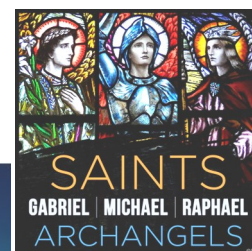
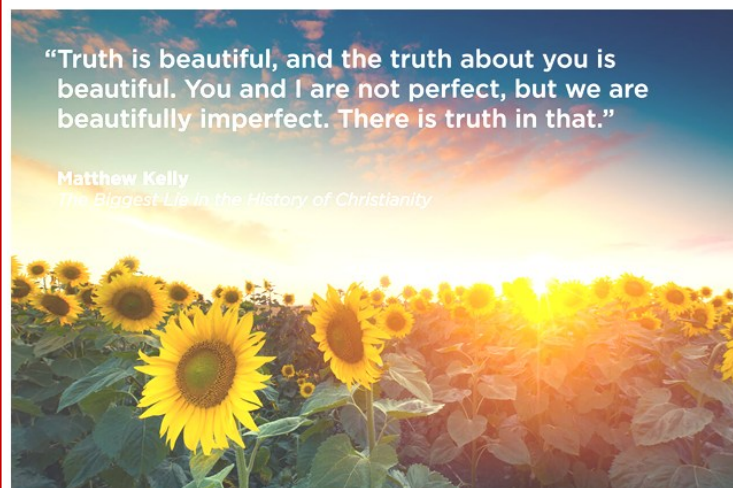
GOLF SCRAMBLE
4 Person Golf Scramble
Friday, October 9
Oak Brook Golf Club, Edwardsville
9:00 AM Shotgun Start

Prizes
Lunch
Goodie Bags

Relevant Options
Snacks
Side Games
Free Water & Soda

Contact: Darrin Korte: 618.781.1622/darrinkorte@me.com
Darrell Luitjohan: 618.407.5299/dkluitjohan@gmail.com

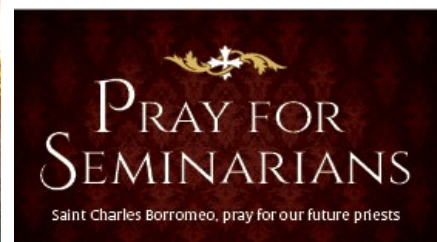
Koinonia 50th Anniversary Celebration
Sunday, November 15, 2026
St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Chatham, Ill. Details coming!



Please join us to celebrate
EUGENE'S
90th BIRTHDAY!
Wednesday, October 7th
at The Vine St Center
225 Vine St, Greenville, IL

Meal provided. No gifts, cards are ok
This will be at the October Community Table.

Jacob Esker
Configuration I
Kenrick-Glennon Seminary



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2026



Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him." - Mt 21:32

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD
IN ILLINOIS

+
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Pocahontas
Office Hours:
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

Mass Times
Immaculate Conception
Wed. & Fri. —8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas
Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am